

S. R. NO. _____

By: 

WHEREAS, The death of Honorable Gus J. Strauss came in obedience to the words of Holy Writ that "It is appointed unto man once to die"; and

WHEREAS, He was born in Shiner, Texas, on February 12, 1912, the son of Charles and Caroline Strauss. Young Gus attended public school and graduated from Hallettsville High School in Lavaca County. This was followed by his graduation from St. Edward's University of Austin with a bachelor of arts degree in 1933. He was awarded an honorary law degree by St. Edwards in 1944; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Strauss was elected District Clerk to succeed his father in 1934 in which office he served with distinction until he was named Director of the Gas Utilities Division of the Texas Railroad Commission in 1941; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Strauss was elected in 1946 from the 15th Senatorial District to the Senate of Texas and served therein until 1956. Senator Strauss was honored by his colleagues by his selection as President Pro Tempore in 1954 and served as acting Governor-for-a-Day during the absence from the State of then Governor Allen Shivers and then Lieutenant Governor Ben Ramsey; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of the State Bar of Texas and following the death of Judge Paul H. Fertsch in 1957, Senator Strauss was appointed County Judge of Lavaca County. He continued in that position until his death on July 11, 1970; and

WHEREAS, Senator Strauss was active in civic affairs and especially in the activities of the Catholic Church. He served as State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus from July 1, 1941 to June 30, 1946, and was past grand knight of the Father Mathis Knights of Columbus Council of Hallettsville. Also, Senator Strauss was a third degree member of the Hallettsville Council and a member of the fourth Degree Assembly of the Knights of Columbus in Yoakum; and

WHEREAS, Judge Strauss was awarded a medal in 1952 by the National Catholic Rural Life Conference for his efforts in support of farm-to-market roads, soil and water conservation and home ownership; he was also instrumental in the passage of legislation creating the Lavaca County Flood Control District No. 3 in 1959; and

WHEREAS, In further recognition of his interesting conservation practices and civic work he was presented a plaque by the Hallettsville Chamber of Commerce, and in 1969 received the Fort Worth Press Nomination as the outstanding professional man of the year in Soil and Water Conservation; and

WHEREAS, Judge Strauss served as President of the Hallettsville Lions Club from 1956 to 1960 followed by service as a District Governor of Lions International in 1960-1961; and

WHEREAS, Judge Strauss was an outstanding individual, a man whose love for his fellow citizens, his State, his community guided him throughout his long and distinguished career of public service; and

WHEREAS, Judge Strauss was a kind and compassionate man and a devoted husband and father; he was a man with many friends who will not soon forget him; and

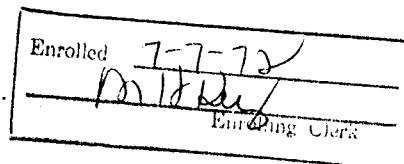
WHEREAS, He is survived by his wife, the former Mary Lee Elstner, to whom he was married on September 2, 1936; two sons, Olin Strauss of Jourdanton and Gus J. Strauss, Jr., of Yoakum; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Rose Grafe of Houston; two brothers, Charles Strauss and Fred Strauss of Hallettsville; three sisters, Mrs. John Kvinta of Yoakum, Miss Annie Strauss of Hallettsville, and Mrs. C. D. Hamff of Victoria; and eight grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, The Senate of Texas desires to pay tribute to Judge Gus J. Strauss for his many contributions to Lavaca County and to the State of Texas, and to extend its sympathy to the members of his family, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED by the Senate of Texas of the 62nd Legislature, Third Called Session, that this Resolution stand in memory of

Judge Gus J. Strauss, outstanding individual, respected public official and genuine friend of the people of Texas; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate be and he is hereby directed to transmit copies of this Resolution, under Seal of the Senate, to the members of his family as evidence of the sympathy of the Senate of Texas, and that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of the Honorable Gus J. Strauss and that a page of the Senate Journal be set aside for this Resolution.



SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 331

In Memory
of
Judge Gus J. Strauss

WHEREAS, The death of the Honorable Gus J. Strauss came in obedience to the words of Holy Writ that "It is appointed unto man once to die"; and

WHEREAS, He was born in Shiner, Texas, on February 12, 1912, the son of Charles and Caroline Strauss; young Gus attended public school and graduated from Hallettsville High School in Lavaca County; this was followed by his graduation from St. Edward's University of Austin with a bachelor of arts degree in 1933; he was awarded an honorary law degree by St. Edward's in 1944; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Strauss was elected District Clerk to succeed his father in 1934, in which office he served with distinction until he was named Director of the Gas Utilities Division of the Texas Railroad Commission in 1941; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Strauss was elected in 1946 from the 15th Senatorial District to the Senate of Texas and served therein until 1956; Senator Strauss was honored by his colleagues by his selection as President Pro Tempore in 1954, and served as acting Governor-for-a-Day during the absence from the State of then Governor Allan Shivers and then Lieutenant Governor Ben Ramsey; and

WHEREAS, He was a member of the State Bar of Texas and following the death of Judge Paul H. Fertsch in 1957, Senator Strauss was appointed County Judge of Lavaca County. He continued in that position until his death on July 11, 1970; and

WHEREAS, Senator Strauss was active in civic affairs and especially in the activities of the Catholic Church; he served as State Deputy of the Knights of Columbus from July 1, 1941 to June 30, 1946, and was past Grand Knight of the Father Mathis Knights of Columbus Council of Hallettsville; also, Senator Strauss was a third degree member of the Hallettsville Council and a member of the Fourth Degree Assembly of the Knights of Columbus in Yoakum; and

WHEREAS, Senator Strauss was awarded a medal in 1952 by the National Catholic Rural Life Conference for his efforts in support of farm-to-market roads, soil and water conservation and home ownership; he was also instrumental in the passage of legislation creating the Lavaca County Flood Control District No. 3 in 1959; and

WHEREAS, In further recognition of his interesting conservation practices and civic work he was presented a plaque by the Hallettsville Chamber of Commerce, and in 1969, received the Fort Worth Press Nomination as the outstanding professional man of the year in Soil and Water Conservation; and

WHEREAS, Senator Strauss served as President of the Hallettsville Lions Club from 1956 to 1960, followed by service as a District Governor of Lions International in 1960-1961; and

WHEREAS, Senator Strauss was an outstanding individual, a man whose love for his fellow citizens, his State, and his community guided him throughout his long and distinguished career of public service; and

WHEREAS, Senator Strauss was a kind and compassionate man and a devoted husband and father; he was a man with many friends who will not soon forget him; and

WHEREAS, He is survived by his wife, the former Mary Lee Elstner, to whom he was married on September 2, 1936; two sons, Olin Strauss of Jourdanton and Gus J. Strauss, Jr. of Yoakum; a daughter, Mrs. Mary Rose Grafe of Houston; two brothers, Charles Strauss and Fred Strauss of Hallettsville; three sisters, Mrs. John Kvinta of Yoakum, Miss Annie Strauss of Hallettsville, and Mrs. C. D. Hamff of Victoria; and eight grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, The Senate of Texas desires to pay tribute to Senator Gus J. Strauss for his many contributions to Lavaca County and to the State of Texas, and to extend its sympathy to the members of his family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Senate of Texas of the 62nd Legislature, 3rd Called Session, that this Resolution stand in memory of Senator Gus J. Strauss, outstanding individual, respected public official and genuine friend of the people of Texas; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate be and he is hereby directed to transmit copies of this Resolution, under the seal of the Senate, to the members of his family as evidence of the sympathy of the Senate of Texas, and that when the Senate adjourns today, it do so in memory of the Honorable Gus J. Strauss and that a page of the Senate Journal be set aside for this Resolution.

Patman

Aikin
Bates
Beckworth
Bernal
Blanchard
Bridges
Brooks
Christie
Connally
Creighton

Grover
Hall
Harrington
Harris
Herring
Hightower
Jordan
Kennard
Kothmann
Mauzy

McKool
Moore
Tippen
Schwartz
Sherman
Snelson
Wallace
Watson
Wilson
Word

Barnes, Lt. Governor

Lieutenant Governor

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on July 7, 1972, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

S.R. No. ____ By: _____

Memorial Resolution for Senator

Gus J. Strauss